chartering haj flights during haj season- 2000. The bids of other five parties were rejected by the Haj Tender Committee because they did not confirm to technical requirements and did not furnish the required documentation.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Operation of International Flights from Guwahati Airport

1982.DR. (SMT.) JOYASREE GOSWAMIMAHANTA: Will the Minister of CTVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether necessary arrangements have been made and any date fixed for starting operation of International flights to and from Guwahati Airport which is being upgraded as an International Airport;

(b) if so, what is the date from which such flights will become operational; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport is going to deal with the traffic only of the South Asian countries?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi Airport, Guwahati is a Model Airport and works relating to Arrival Hall and the extension of apron to accommodate six aircraft have been completed. The works relating to expansion of domestic terminal building, strengthening of runway, central airconditioning of terminal building and construction of operational boundary wall are in progress. Commencement of international flights will depend upon the demand and commercial viability of operation. No airline operator has indicated its plan to start international flights so far.

Delay in Services of IC-470

1983.SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of days in a month the Indian Airlines flights IC- 470 was on scheduled time;

(b) whether it is a fact that it remains delayed for 20 days in a month, if so, the action taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government would consider this situation as delay in flight or something less; and

(d) the persons responsible for this delay and what appropriate action Ministry has taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) During the period August, 1999 to January, 2000, CD-7470 (Raipur/Nagpur/ Delhi) was delayed, on an average, on 15 occasions per month.

The flights on Delhi/Nagpur/Raipur and return sectors are operated in the evening with one of the incoming aircraft to Delhi. As a result, flight CE 7470 is hit by consequential delays.

The on Time Performance of services operated by Indian Airline including Alliance Air is closely monitored on day-to-day basis and efforts are made to minimize delays.

Holding of Alliance Air Flight at Bhopal

1984.SHRI CO. POULOSE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that on February 12 the Alliance Air CD-134 flight from Bhopal, was held up for long time at Indore due to delay in the arrival of Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin, the Head of Bohra Community who was to emplane from there;

(b) if so, how can the flight be delayed for an individual; and

(c) the step Government taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Alliance Air flight CD-7134 of 13th February, 2000 had to be delayed by thirty five minutes at Indore due to late arrival of Syedna Mohammad Burhanuddin, Head of Bohra Community, and his group, on the advice of the district administration, to avoid possible violence by the crowd of around 40,000 waiting to see him off.

Linking of Small Cities with Private Air Taxi Service

1985.DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to encourage private air taxi services linking smaller cities is under the consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the services are likely to commence;